

Recommendation 3: RETI Public Outreach

1) RETI Issue Area

Public Outreach

2) Goals

- Build public understanding of the need for large-scale renewable energy-transmission projects, after incorporation of energy efficiency and distributed PV potential.
- Build public support for approval of specific transmission projects.
- Build public trust in agency transmission planning and development processes.
- Involve public in design of transmission projects.

3) Activity

- Gather ideas and concerns from the public on generation-transmission planning and development, to incorporate into and improve RETI work.
- Explain electricity planning and development processes and assumptions.
- Support REAT, CAISO, CTPG and CEC corridor designation processes.
- Focus on local/county concerns in counties where most generation-transmission development is anticipated.
- Organize in-person public meetings and workshops; web meetings not effective for outreach purposes.
- Evaluate effectiveness of meetings on an on-going basis.

4) Participants

- RETI Public Outreach Work Group plans meetings, develops presentation materials, follows up with public attendees.
- Minimum 4-6 SSC members at every public meeting.
- Meeting arrangement/logistics support from SSC member organizations.

5) Schedule

Schedule meetings as needed, to gather public input and explain the reasons for generation-transmission development. Initial target: six meetings per year.

Illustrative meeting subjects and schedule:

2010 Q1

- Joint REAT-RETI workshop on DRECP development
- Public meeting in Inyo County re: Inyo-area CREZ and county concerns

2010 Q2

- Joint CAISO-RETI workshop on ISO 33% conceptual plan
- Public meeting in San Bernardino County re: proposed generation-transmission development there; need to reserve corridors for future development.

2010 Q3

- Public meeting to build understanding of a specific transmission project (e.g., Devers-Palo Verde #2; Barren Ridge); use meeting to explain the need for large-scale renewables generation-transmission projects
- Public meeting in Imperial County re: proposed generation-transmission development there.

2010 Q4

- Joint CAISO-CPUC-CEC-RETI meeting on designation of Energy Resource Areas re: CAISO Location-Constrained Resource Interconnection Facilities.
- Public workshops to present results of short-term interconnection study, quantifying amount of new transmission necessary to meet state goals.
- Public meeting in Riverside County re: proposed generation-transmission development there.

6) Deliverables

- Presentation materials and/or FAQs explaining large-scale generation-transmission in relation to EE and distributed PV implementation.
- Presentation materials explaining specific transmission projects in relation to state energy and environmental goals, statewide generation-transmission development plan, and state and federal resource zone designations.
- These materials available on the RETI website.